

Flynn, Eileen

From: Christine Boutin <kolabear47@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 5:28 PM
To: HSTestimony
Subject: Raised Bill 6765 - Interpreter Qualifications

To the Human Services Committee:

My name is Christine Boutin. I am Deaf and use sign language interpreting services here in Connecticut.

I agree with the intent of Raised Bill 6765 to update and strengthen the training and educational requirements for sign language interpreters to work in Connecticut. However, I do not agree with downgrading the certification qualifications for interpreters in legal settings. The knowledge and proficiency demonstrated by higher levels of certification should not be equated with time spent in a workshop.

I also fear that I will not be able to receive interpreting services due to a shortage of qualified interpreters until interpreters are able to satisfy the documentation of training hours required for each setting.

With the qualifications in the law as it stands now, I have had wonderful interpreting services and I think very highly of the quality of interpreters we do have in this state.

Thank you.